

# Coney Island Velodrome Rally Sunday to Mark Browder's Birthday

**RAIL WORKERS  
MUST ASSERT  
THEMSELVES**

—Editorial Page 6

# Daily Worker

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# C. I. O. SEES VICTORY IN FORD POLL

## 'No Convoy' Gains In Grass Roots

Parade in Fort Wayne, Rally in Rochester, N. Y., Leaflet Distributions in Minnesota, Mark Current Fight for Peace

In the country's "grass roots" areas they are organizing for peace with unprecedented energy, a statement yesterday by the American Peace Mobilization indicated.

The Peace Mobilization based its statement on reports received in the National Office from the four corners of the nation. According to the APM, here's what's happening in America today:

Fast, well thought out and coordinated action was responsible for the success of a parade through business district organized by the Fort Wayne, Ind., Peace Council in less than three days. Fort Wayne, incidentally, is not a town where peace parades or picket lines are customary sights. It was on a Thursday morning that the peace council's executive committee decided to hold a parade the following Saturday. Intermediate strategy was as follows:

Five thousand leaflets were distributed Thursday and Friday nights calling for a protest demonstration against Stimson's convoy speech. "Don't wait for George to do it," the leaflet read. "This Parade Is Your Job." Cooperation with local pacifist group and the local anti-war paper was worked out at a meeting with representatives of each, resulting in an advance newspaper story which quoted the APM handbill. An ad was also run.

The parade Saturday afternoon attracted much attention. Onlookers showed their approval.

The parade wound up before the other Fort Wayne newspaper which is pro-war, and three pickets were stationed there to hand out copies of the Declaration of the American People's Meeting and a leaflet beginning "If You Fight for Peace Today You Won't Fight in War Tomorrow."

### SOUTH DAKOTA

From Sioux Falls, S. D., comes a letter:

"We are organizing a local of the APM here," writes a woman from this town. "We held our first meeting, hearing the report of Martin Lane on the New York meeting. Out of this came our first official meeting which was held in the home of one of the PWOC members."

Martin Lane, a delegate to the American People's Meeting in New York on April 5-6, is editor of the weekly Mid-West Farm Labor, so Sioux Falls peace mobilizers are counting on getting lots of publicity from him.

In Rochester, N. Y., the local Council of the American Peace Mobilization is making contact with daily increasing numbers of

(Continued on Page 2)

## Peace Vigil Funds Pour Into Capital

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau) WASHINGTON, D. C., May 20.—While American Peace Mobilization leaders prepared to defy a Dies Committee demand that it furnish its membership lists at a hearing tomorrow morning, the Peace Vigil at the White House rounded out its 25th hour of consecutive picketing

Marian Briggs, administrative secretary of APM, reported that contributions to keep the Peace Vigil going have poured in from unions and other organizations in Fort Wayne, Ind., Cincinnati, Bridgeport, Elizabeth, Milwaukee, and St. Louis, as well as from Washington, D. C.

The response from our many local councils and many friends has shown that the nationwide resistance to the convoy-war program of the administration is growing into a full-fledged people's struggle to get America out of this war."

A contingent from the CIO American Communications Association will participate in the Peace Vigil tomorrow, and will be led by ACA President Joseph Selly and Secretary-Treasurer Josephine Timms.



PHILIP MURRAY

## Murray Here to Address Transit Rally Tonight

CIO President, in Interview Pledges Full Backing of National CIO in TWU Fight for Labor Rights

Philip Murray, president of the CIO, who will head a list of prominent trade union speakers at a mass rally of the Transport Workers Union in Madison Square Garden tonight, declared in a press interview yesterday that the entire CIO is solidly behind the TWU in its fight to win union contracts on city-owned transit lines.

"The national CIO," Murray revealed, "has employed the services of the distinguished legal firm of Marvin C. Harris and Homer H. Marshman of the city of Cleveland to represent the interests of the CIO in litigation now pending in New York between the Board of Transportation and the Transport Workers Union."

"This act," Murray pointed out, evidences the interest which the national CIO is manifesting in pro-

(Continued on Page 4)

## Big Velodrome Rally to Honor Earl Browder

Foster, Minor, Among Speakers at Sunday Birthday Tribute

Twenty thousand men, women and children will throng Coney Island Velodrome, Neptune Avenue and W. 10th St., Coney Island, Sunday afternoon at 3 P. M. to honor Earl Browder, whose 50th birthday was yesterday.

They will pay tribute to the imprisoned Communist leader in ways that will give him the deepest satisfaction. Many will join the Communist Party. Others will re-dedicate themselves to the task of building a strong Communist Party, able to lead the people out of the way into peace and freedom.

This will be New York's "birth-day party" to the imprisoned leader whose writings are today the center of ever-widening study and whose liberty is more and more identified with the nation's freedom. Choral singing and a newly composed song about Earl Browder will help make the occasion a festive one despite the anger that is felt at the thought that Earl Browder spent his 50th birthday in prison.

Against the background of the struggle against the war, the high cost of living, attacks upon the trade unions, speakers will tell of Browder's mighty contributions to the women, the youth, the Negro people, the labor movement, the Communist Party and the fight for peace and socialism.

These topics will be developed by such masters of Communist theory and practice as William Z. Foster, Robert Minor, James W. Ford, Mother Bloor, Israel Amter, John Gates.

Meanwhile Communist sections in New York are striving to substantially complete recruiting quotas by the time of the birthday celebration for it is understood throughout the Party that Earl Browder would want no better birthday gift.

Already, the number of workers who have joined the Party in the past two weeks is higher than in any similar period for months past.

## F.D.R. Names Mayor Head of 'HomeDefense'

Labor Observers Fear Creation of Army of Strikebreakers

(Special to the Daily Worker) WASHINGTON, May 20.—Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia of New York City today was named by President Roosevelt to head a so-called Office of Civilian Defense which will train men, women and youth as volunteers to watch for planes, to administer first aid, and to man soup kitchens.

The Mayor's new office is planned to extend "defense" activity to every office will decentralize "home defense" activities throughout the country, with state organizations made responsible for local activities.

LaGuardia will retain his posts as Mayor of New York City and as chairman of the Joint U.S.-Canadian Defense Board, the President said. He will serve without pay.

It was announced that the new office will decentralize "home defense" activities throughout the country, with state organizations made responsible for local activities.

All men exempt from the armed forces are said to be "expected" to volunteer as home guards.

The funds will be extended under supervision of the Red Cross.

President Roosevelt said the ships will be manned by Irish seamen and will sail under Irish registry.

He declared he expects the Eire government to make additional food purchases here to be transported in the two ships.

### TO GET NAME FILE

The War Department has been instructed by the President to turn over to LaGuardia the names of all men exempted from military service.

Under the new program, which has been prepared for many months, the country will be divided into nine districts with headquarters in each of the nine cities where army corps areas have their headquarters.

It is believed here that the real purpose of this proposed program is an attempt to cope with the administration's No. 1 problem—the lack of popular enthusiasm for military involvement in the war of the United States.

Few informed persons here believe that the so-called "home defense" program will have any immediate practical effect in defending the homes and communities of the people.

On the other hand "intensive

(Continued on Page 4)

## German Parachute Troops Storm Crete

London Claims Nazis Were Disguised as New Zealanders

LONDON, May 20 (UPI). — A savage battle raged tonight on the Greek island of Crete where thousands of German parachute troops wearing British uniforms were suddenly landed by swarms of gliders and Junkers transports in the biggest and most spectacular aerial invasion ever attempted.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill telling of a serious battle being waged on the rugged 140-mile long island, said that British, New Zealand and Greek defenders "have the situation in hand" after day-long fighting, much of it hand-to-hand.

Churchill told of 1,500 German parachutists dropping from the sky wearing New Zealand uniforms, apparently stripped from prisoners taken in the battle of Greece. Other reliable quarters had estimated that the Germans landed a full division—perhaps 10,000 to 12,000 men.

It was the first time in the history of warfare that motorless transports although gliders have made flights of 400 to 485 miles—six times the distance from the Greek mainland to Crete.

The Madison Square Garden rally, which is part of the union's "direct-to-the-people" campaign in

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**London Claims Nazis Were Disguised as New Zealanders**

(Continued from Page 1)

already have been accounted for," according to a communiqué of the British Middle East Command in Cairo.

The number of British and Greek troops on Crete, established as a strong base after the British evacuations from Greece, was estimated here at perhaps 50,000 men, all under Major General Freyburg's command.

Churchill, in his statement to the House of Commons, and a Cairo communiqué revealed that British bombers have been blasting nightly at German airfields on the Greek mainland where the Nazis were massing "very heavy concentrations" of aircraft of all kinds.

BERLIN, May 20 (UP)—Spokesmen tonight branded as "absolutely false" British assertions that German parachutists were landed in Crete disguised as New Zealand soldiers but they refused to either confirm or deny that an air-borne invasion of the Greek island had occurred.

The spokesman said, at 7:30 P.M., that they were unable to say anything of the reported mass parachutist attack and went on to add that, if the report were true, the Germans certainly were not wearing British uniforms as claimed by British Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

### NEW UNIFORMS

These quarters explained that a portion of the German parachutists recently were outfitted in Khaki uniforms, similar to those of the German African Corps, for use in warm climates. Spokesmen recalled that foreign correspondents on a recent trip to Greece saw a number of parachutists so attired. They pointed out that from a distance it was conceivable that one might mistake these uniforms for those of New Zealanders or other British imperial forces.

The official DNB news agency said dive bombers this morning successfully attacked harbor works, anti-aircraft and searchlight positions at La Valeta, Malta, and that throughout the day the Luftwaffe carried out armed reconnaissance flights over eastern and southern England. British pursuit planes were said to have withdrawn and avoided battle.

BERLIN, May 20 (UP)—German dive bombers escorted by fighters made a powerful attack on the island of Crete, Anglo-Greek stronghold in the Mediterranean, yesterday, setting fire to a British 8,250-ton cruiser and battering the island's airfields, the High Command said today.

In the light of the great attack on Crete today by Nazi parachute troops, disclosed by the British, the attack yesterday apparently was to "soften up" the island's defenses and facilitate Luftwaffe command of the air for the parachute attack.

The communiqué said that in air fighting six British Hurricane fighters were shot down and that six others were destroyed on the ground. Runways and landing fields were bombed.

Meanwhile, the German submarine war on British commerce continued at an intense pace. The High Command said that one U-boat had sunk a total of 33,000 tons of British tankers and other shipping. This communiqué said that during the past two days the Germans had sunk a total of 43,000 tons of tankers and that during the "last few days" the total of tankers destroyed was 7,000 tons.

Other Nazi bombers were said to have attacked harbors on the English south and southeast coasts last night. During air battles off the English south coast Monday six British fighters and one bomber were said to have been shot down.

The High Command said that no Royal Air Force planes flew into Germany Monday or Monday night.

## Italian Troops Counter-Attack In Ethiopia

**Axis Forces Report Taking Prisoners at Tobruk**

ROME, May 20 (UP)—Italian forces counter-attacked in the Gondar sector of Ethiopia and dislodged the British from positions they took Saturday and Sunday after considerable losses to both sides, the Italian war communiqué said today.

The communiqué said that before besieged Tobruk, Axis forces smashed small British actions, taking prisoners. Axis aviation bombed Tobruk and Marsa Matruh, causing fires. It was added, and British aviation raided Benghazi.



**Back to the Land:** This Spanish farmer is at work at the large Santa Clara farm in Mexico where 100 Spanish refugee families are building a new life. The 300,000 acres of fertile farmland here could easily accommodate several hundred additional families but a serious shortage of farm implements of all kinds and a lack of seed and cattle is holding up plans for further resettlement at the present time. —Photo Mayo

## Spanish Refugees Bravely Begin Again' in Mexico

**Thousands Struggle Valiantly to Earn Livelihood for Families; Contribute to Economy and Culture; Need Aid; Spanish Aid Committee Opens Drive**

In the State of Chiapas, most tropical region of Mexico, Maria Gomez, her husband and two young children are among the 300 Spanish refugee colonists who arrived last autumn after a hazardous trip on the S. S. Cuba. They have now begun to till the soil and have made a start in caring for their physical and educational needs.

Maria's principal worries are that Juan, aged 7, is in need of vitamins and medical care. Teresa, 10, needs shoes and a dress, while Jose, her husband, is working too hard because proper farm tools are lacking. She does not complain of her own need for a dress to replace the badly frayed garment she is wearing.

Throughout Latin America today 20,000 dauntless Spanish anti-fascists are building a new life, slowly piecing together the strands of their broken existence. There is a universal lack among them of the material things needed for a decent life like those which trouble Maria Gomez.

Mexico has the largest number of refugees, 11,000 men, women and children. There are 2,500 in the Dominican Republic, 2,000 in Chile and 5,500 in Cuba, Ecuador and other Latin American countries.

### CONTRIBUTING TO CULTURE

Plowing the soil, building and working in factories, constructing schools and dormitories, laboratories and clinics, these valiant fighters for democracy in Spain are contributing to the culture and economy of their new surroundings.

Many of these projects are on their way to being self-supporting. Assistance is needed, however, if they are to be established on a self-sustaining basis. The technical skill, determination, genius and courage of these heroic people who were saved from Franco terror and a horrible fate in disease-ridden concentration camps in France and North Africa are not enough. What is lacking are the simple but basic materials that would facilitate this assimilation into the existing social scheme.

### NATIONWIDE DRIVE

To help meet this critical need the Executive Board of the United American Spanish Aid Committee, 425 Fourth Ave., is launching a nationwide campaign. Emphasis is being placed on goods in kind, that is, items and articles urgently required to improve their health and welfare and permit uninterrupted progress in their resettlement activities.

Clothing of all kinds and sizes, for men, women and children, are important items universally needed by the refugees in all the Latin American countries. The committee is urging friends of the Spanish people to ransack their closets and forward all suitable wearing apparel for immediate trans-shipment to the various colonies.

### VICHY ROUNDS UP JEWS FOR LABOR CAMPS

VICHY, May 20 (UP)—French authorities said tonight that 3,700 foreign Jews rounded up last week had been put in concentration camps in the Paris region pending their organization into labor battalions for assignment to national works projects.

They said 2,096 were interned in 19 old wooden barracks in a camp near Beauvais La Roche and 1,694 in 11 barracks at Plithiviers, both near Orleans.

### French Ship Losses

VICHY, May 20 (UP)—France has lost directly or indirectly, as a consequence of the war, 1,232,979 tons of shipping, new official figures on the status of the French merchant marine indicated tonight.

The pre-war tonnage was given as 2,933,933.

## British Take Town Near Iraq Capital In Advance

### Slice Rail Line, Take Fallujah in Fierce Baghdad Drive

CAIRO, May 20 (UP)—British Imperial forces have launched a strong offensive in the direction of Baghdad and seized the town of Fallujah, 36 miles west of Iraqi capital, after defeating Iraqi troops in a brief battle, the British Middle East Command announced today.

The push on Baghdad supported by smashing aerial attacks was launched as seasoned South African troops rushed northward from conquered Ethiopia to bolster empire defense in the Mediterranean war zone.

The Duke of Aosta's garrison of 7,000 troops, under siege at two-mile-high Amba Alagi mountain for more than a month, surrendered yesterday and the Duke, in order that he might be the last man to capitulate, surrendered today to a high-ranking British officer.

The British Imperial forces in Iraq are pushing upon Baghdad from the direction of the British air base at Habbaniya on the Euphrates in an effort to wipe out the resistance of Premier Rashid Ali Beg Galliani's forces before formidable German and Italian aerial forces and perhaps air-borne troops can reach Iraq.

British bombers returned to attacks on Syrian air bases being used by German bombers and troop-ferrying transport planes on route to Iraq.

German planes were bombed and machine-gunned at the Syrian air-dromes, it was said.

By taking Fallujah in Iraq, the British had crossed the Euphrates, a natural barrier to any drive on Baghdad, and also succeeded in cutting the important Habbaniya road.

The intensified British land air attacks in Iraq and continued bombings of Syrian air bases were disclosed after Axis planes, presumably German, again bombed the Suez Canal zone where three of the raiders were shut down.

"No doubt other fighting will continue for some time in the south, but this certainly bears the aspect of culmination of the campaign," he said.

Speaking of the part played by the South African troops in the conquest of Ethiopia, Churchill said that "now that this theatre is closing down, they are to move northward to the Mediterranean."

If RAF bombings of Syrian air-dromes and British attempts to stir up revolt in French possessions continue.

### BRITISH LEGATION TOLD TO LEAVE SYRIA

BEIRUT, May 20 (UP)—The French High Commissioner today formally asked the British Consul General and his staff to leave Syria because of the continued British bombing of Syrian air-dromes.

The request to British Consul Godfrey Havard was made by General Henri Deniz, the French commissioner and military commander in a "retaliatory move" against the British attacks, it was stated.

## BROWDER Says--

IT MIGHT be stated as a law of modern political development, based upon observation of the experience of all countries, that the first attacks upon democracy by those forces determined on its complete destruction always take the form of denial or limitation of democratic rights to Communists, and that these attacks then quickly extend to those who operate in outlawing the Communists, until nothing whatever is left of popular liberties or civil rights. This technique for the destruction of democracy was erected into a complete system under the self-styled "Anti-Comintern Axis" a system which, since the break-up of the Axis, has been taken over by the British and French ruling classes, and is now very forcefully being propagated in the United States. There is not a fight for popular liberties which has failed to receive the loyal and self-sacrificing support of the Communists. And if the day should come when the cause of civil liberties has been abandoned by all other parties, I can assure you that the Communist Party will still stand and fight for the right and the opportunity for the people, the great majority, to control their own destinies in every way.—"The Second Imperialist War," by Earl Browder, pp. 137-8-9.

## Maryland Browder Drive Spurred by 33 Recruits

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BALTIMORE, May 20.—The Maryland-District of Columbia district of the Communist Party celebrated Earl Browder's Fiftieth Birthday by chalking up 33 new members in the first two weeks of its recruiting campaign.

William Taylor, chairman, and E. Blumberg, secretary of the districts said the result was

greeted with spirited enthusiasm at yesterday's meeting of the Maryland State Committee of the Party. The response was termed the "best ever."

The next stage of the drive was

further spurred by individual members taking on extra quotas of new members.

## Churchill Reports on African War

LONDON, May 20 (UP)—Prime Minister Winston Churchill, reporting to the House of Commons on progress of the war in East Africa today, said the surrender of the Duke of Aosta, Viceroy of Ethiopia, with his remaining forces must be considered to bring all major organized resistance" in Ethiopia to an end.

"No doubt other fighting will

continue for some time in the south,

but this certainly bears the aspect

of culmination of the campaign," he said.

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British Ship Sunk

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# Attacks on Teachers Threaten All Labor, Defense Group Warns

Hits 'Purge' of Union Leaders by Rapp Witch-Hunters

In its third "Report to Organized Labor," the Committee for Defense of Public Education of Locals 5 and 537 of the American Federation of Teachers yesterday cited suspension on Monday of 12 more faculty members of City College as "indicative of the attacks which face labor in wartime."

The report said: "There is no doubt that the wave of suspensions at the college is, in effect, an effort to purge trade union leaders and progressive teachers who have had the courage to support peace and democracy."

The Board of Higher Education on Monday announced charges of "conduct unbecoming members of the staff" had been brought against the 12 City College teachers. Their suspension was ordered by Acting President Harry N. Wright, bringing the total of the Rapp-Coudert Committee purge up to 26 suspended and one dismissed.

The report said the suspensions show "callous disregard" for the welfare of the students and the college and added:

#### IMPEDES STUDIES

Ten days before the end of the semester, President Wright forces students preparing for final examinations to work with new instructors who are unprepared to summarize the year's instruction and who are unfamiliar with the quality of the students' work. President Wright strips the administrative offices of their personnel just as they approach their peak load.

Despite the fact that hundreds of telegrams and letters were sent to members of the Board of Higher Education to protest any further suspensions, delegations of trade unionists, educators, parents and students were not permitted to appear before the Board to express their point of view. President Wright, instead, acted secretly and in haste and the Board of Higher Education rubber-stamped his ill-considered judgments.

The report attributed President Wright's "secrecy and haste" to the current effort directed toward regimentation of opinion in the public schools and suppression of those who protest. It quoted the statement of Walter Scott Neff, suspended instructor in Psychology at City College and executive secretary of the New York Council, American Peace Mobilization, who said:

"It is my belief that if I had kept my beliefs to myself, if I had not exercised my duty as an American citizen to involve myself actively in a movement to keep this country democratic and at peace—it is my belief that were I not a leader in the peace movement, that my name would never have come before the Coudert Committee and, subsequently, before the Board of Higher Education."

#### ROSTER OF VICTIMS

Persons against whom charges were brought and who were suspended:

Morris Foner, clerical assistant in the Registrar's Office; Dr. Philip S. Foner, Instructor in History; Murray Griswold, clerical assistant and Tutor in the Education Department; James Healey, Instructor in Public Speaking; Max L. Hutt, Psychologist in Charge, Educational Clinic; Murray Smolar, clerical assistant; Eugene Stein, clerical assistant; Seymour Copstein, Tutor in English; Maxwell Weisman, Tutor in Biology and formerly Executive Director, City College House Plan; Hilliard Wolfsen, clerical assistant. All the above, who have tenure, received charges and will be accorded a trial by a Board committee.

Also suspended: Nelle R. Lederman, Psychologist, Educational Clinic; Sylvia Elfenbein, clerical assistant. Neither of these have tenure but, under resolution of the Board, will have a hearing—procedure of which is under protest.

During Monday's session of the Board of Higher Education more than 200 students and teachers marched in a picket line in front of the building protesting the high-handed action of the Board.

The Committee for Defense of Public Education urged all members and friends of the organized labor movement to protest the suspensions to the Board of Higher Education and demand an open and fair trial and a hearing for those suspended.

The first trial is that of John Kenneth Ackley, suspended City College Registrar, scheduled for June 9.

#### Boston to Hold 'Free Browder' Rally Tomorrow

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BOSTON, May 20.—"Free Earl Browder" will be the rallying cry at a mass meeting which will be held here Friday, May 23 at 8 p.m. at Hotel Bradford.

The main speaker will be Philip Frankfield, secretary of the Communist Party of Eastern Pennsylvania, well-known in Massachusetts for the many years of work and leadership he gave to the labor and progressive movement in this state.



**Student Protest:** Students at City College yesterday afternoon heard Dr. Bella V. Dodd, legislative representative of the Teachers Union Local 5, explain the issues involved and the meaning of the suspension of faculty members.

Daily Worker Staff Photo

## Coudert Victims Suffer Tragic Fate in Witch-Hunt

**Illness, Poverty, Broken Homes, Evictions Follow City College Suspensions; Teachers Union Urges Funds, Support in Fight**

Broken leases—and broken homes, poverty, persecution, illness, even an eviction—have been the fruit, for suspended City College teachers and their families, of the Rapp-Coudert inquisition.

Dr. Bella V. Dodd, Legislative Representative of the Teachers Union, Local 5, and member of the executive of the College Teachers Union, Local 537, told the Daily Worker the story of the tragedies in the lives of these progressive educators, who have been persecuted for their heroic fight to preserve democracy and civil rights in the educational system of New York City.

"Another professor," she went on, "has suffered from complete nervous collapse, and had to give up work entirely. A third had an acute heart attack, and is under the care of a day and night nurse. The doctor says his condition is the direct result of emotional stress.

The wife of still another, who was merely named in the inquiry, this week gave birth to a still-born twin boy. He has been forced to give up his apartment and send his wife and children to live with a relative in Ohio.

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**FROM WORKING CLASS** "In the first place," she went on, "these men were mostly the products of New York City's colleges. They came from the working people, and didn't have education given to them on a silver platter. To be sure, they got tuition free, but they had to work for their keep, their equipment, and everything else.

It should surprise no one that suspension without pay brings sudden confusion and want into the lives of these teachers. They work for so little in the first place—between \$600 and \$2,400 a year, and their expenses are so high. Many of them are still paying for their degrees. Three or four, who are suspended now, had to borrow money to get their Ph.D.'s because they were required to get them in order to continue with their jobs. Now they have the degrees, and the jobs are gone. They aren't likely to get others, either, since the blacklist system is widespread in American colleges. What a waste of training and of brilliant minds!"

Dr. Dodd told the story of Dr. Sidney Eisenberger, of the Chem-

istry Department, who is married, and the father of four-year-old twin boys. He has been forced to give up his apartment and send his wife and children to live with a relative in Ohio.

**PENNLESS** "And isn't it ironical?" Dr. Dodd asked. "It was the Foner family who took in William Martin Hays, the man who smeared them in his testimony, when he was sick and out of work six years ago. Their mother used to wash his clothes for him. They even bought him a new pair of glasses, when his old ones broke!"

Another case described by Dr. Dodd was that of David Goldway, brilliant union leader. His wife had to give up her job at New York University last year because she was going to have a baby. The administration refused her maternity leave. Now the Goldways are nearly penniless and have had to move with relatives, baby and all.

"Our professors used to feel secure, with their tenure," Dr. Dodd continued. "But not any more. They've learned that they are subject to the same persecution and insecurity as the mope workers and the transport workers."

The Teachers' Union, Dr. Dodd explained, is trying to keep these suspended teachers going by means of union benefits and the contributions of sympathizers. "And we have a pretty big family to support now."

She added, "But the organized workers know that we are fighting for the same fundamental rights that they hold dear. That's why they're giving us such magnificent support."

**CIO Welders Strike** DUNKIRK, N. Y., May 20 (UPI).—Fifty welders at the American Locomotive Company plant were on strike today, demanding a closed union shop and a 10-cent hour wage increase.

The workers, affiliated with the CIO Steel Workers Organizing Committee, began their strike yesterday.

In the midst of official talk about war "prosperity," and with the government calling openly for "all-out aid to Britain," the Third New York State Convention of the Workers' Alliance meeting on Sunday will demand "All out aid—to the unemployed."

Representatives of groups of unemployed and WPA workers in New York City and from up-state New York will attend this one-day convention, which will start at 9:30 Sunday morning, in Irving Plaza, 15th St. and Irving Place.

Other demands of the unemployed which will be taken up Sunday will include the stopping of WPA cuts, increase in relief, with full rent, utilities and clothing on the budget, and an end to discrimination on relief against the Negro people and the foreign-born.

It is in this atmosphere of the Roosevelt-Wall Street war upon the rights of the American people that the Third Annual Convention of the Workers' Alliance of New York State is being held. But it is also in the atmosphere of determined struggle and brilliant victory by organized labor that our State Convention takes place. And even in these dark days, the Workers' Alliance banner waves high in the struggle against unemployment."

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unemployed to be discussed at the convention, according to Ethel Rainford, state secretary, will be the passage of the Security Against Unemployment Act, HR 4709, which would provide for jobs for everyone able and willing worker in the United States, for the entire period of his unemployment, without discrimination because of race, color, creed, political affiliation or state of citizenship.

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## Michigan CIO To Open Parley Tomorrow

### 600 Delegates to Act on Peace, Cost of Living Issues

(Special to the Daily Worker)

JACKSON, Mich., May 20.—The Michigan State CIO convention opens here Thursday at the Hays Hotel with an expected 600 delegates representing 500,000 members of the Michigan Congress of Industrial Organization in attendance.

Phenomenal growth will be reported at this convention with state officers reporting more than 150,000 new members, and 61 new locals chartered. This makes 222 local unions now affiliated. According to State Secretary Ben Probe, the Michigan CIO organization is now the largest state of the National CIO.

Asked today what will be the main issues confronting the convention, Probe listed the protection of the right to strike and the drive to raise wages in accordance with the soaring cost of living.

#### PEACE RESOLVE

Probe said that re-affirmation of the CIO Atlantic City convention position against any involvement of the United States in imperialist wars, will be carried through at the convention.

Tied up with this, he said, must go also a struggle to see that the workers are not burdened with the rising taxation program and that those forces in the nation today amassing huge profits will be made to shoulder the increased taxation and not the workers.

Probe placed great emphasis on the need for the state gathering of CIO leaders going on record against the "wave of anti-labor and anti-civil liberties legislation that is now being pushed by reactionary forces in the National and State capitals."

"This is a real threat to labor rights, to the rights of the people, to prevent them from freely expressing their opinions and constitutional rights against threat; this labor must stand in the forefront to defend the Congress."

A nation-wide petition campaign to bring a million reminders to President Roosevelt of American youths' realization that "convoys mean shooting . . . shooting means war" was initiated this week by the American Youth Congress.

The petition succinctly informs the President that American youth is "ready to fight—for peace and a democratic America. But life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" doesn't grow in Flanders field . . .

We are opposed to convoys by any name and to an AEF on any foreign soil."

The Youth Congress is preparing for its 7th national convention, to be held at the Hotel Stephen Girard in Philadelphia, July 3-6. The call to the convention declares that youth will never allow "our generation to be robbed of its citizenship."

Striking hard at the war steps taken by the Roosevelt Administration in its drive to subdue the peace sentiments of the American people, the Congress Call declares:

"The Bill of Rights is threatened in the name of 'national defense' as concerted efforts are made to destroy academic freedom, the rights of labor and the rights of racial, religious and political minorities. Discrimination against the Negro people, Jim-Crow and lynching continue unabated."

"Four million young people are unemployed and out of school, seeking jobs, training and education. Despite these attempts are being made to reduce Federal aid to youth. . . Millions of youth need extended and equal educational opportunities, yet school budgets are slashed. Millions of working youth ask security and decent conditions but their demands are refused on the pretext that they must 'sacrifice'."

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## \$437,000,000 Dividends in 12 Weeks!

While you are wondering how to stretch your weekly pay envelope to meet the rising cost of living, we call your attention to the following news—

*The New York Stock Exchange yesterday boasted in its official monthly bulletin that corporations listed on the Exchange paid out \$437,407,000 in dividends—nearly a half a billion dollars—during the first twelve weeks of 1941!*

This is at the rate of \$36,000,000 a week. This is after all deductions, including taxes.

### F.D.R. Asks Big Slash In WPA Funds

#### Urge Congress to Cut \$109,000,000 for Coming Year

(Continued from Page 1)

only 1,500,000 workers are considered inevitable if the President's proposal is approved by Congress.

#### TO FIRE 200,000

Some 200,000 WPA workers are now scheduled to receive pink slips within the next two months in order to bring the rolls down to 1,300,000. Total cuts under the present program will reach 800,000 from a high of 1,900,000 last winter.

The President estimated that his new program will permit an enrollment of over 1,000,000 workers on the average. There is thus a likelihood that another 300,000 will be separated from the rolls during the summer months, bringing total cuts in a period of only little more than six months to about 900,000.

These slashes are contemplated in the face of large-scale unemployment estimated by the CIO at close to 9,000,000.

WPA officials make little secret of the fact that they have hundreds of thousands of unemployed workers on their waiting lists qualified in every way to fill non-existent WPA jobs.

Although no official estimate was available from WPA sources, it is believed that the WPA waiting list is still close to 1,000,000.

CIO economists estimate that the maximum number of new jobs during the coming fiscal year as a result of the arms program will be 2,000,000.

At best, therefore, there will be 1,000,000 WPA jobs for an unemployed army of some 7,000,000 during the 1942 fiscal year.

This would bring the percentage of unemployed workers on WPA rolls down to an all-time low of less than 15 per cent as compared with 25 per cent during the 1936 to 1938 period.

Ironically enough, the President admitted in his relief-cutting message that "we cannot anticipate an increase in employment in the same proportion as the increase in expenditures for next year. Moreover this increase will not necessarily result in a corresponding decrease in unemployment."

He pointed to increases in the labor force "partly due to additional employment of workers such as students who during normal times would continue to pursue an education."

#### NOT IN DEMAND

"An additional factor militating against as great a reduction in unemployment as might appear possible is that there are many of the presently unemployed who have little chance to be absorbed by the defense effort," he declared. "Certain regions of the country are not affected by defense activities, and many types of workers are not in demand."

Another ironical feature of the President's message was that he came out for the elimination of drastic reactionary features in WPA appropriations imposed by the House economy bloc more than two years ago, at the same time he proposed such drastic cuts as would make improvements in administration virtually meaningless.

The President pointed out that WPA "is now required to remove from employment those persons who have been continuously employed for 18 months, and to make investigations at least once in 12 months to determine the continuing need of each project worker." "I believe that the first requirement works a great hardship on many people," the President said. "The second requirement is unnecessary and costly. I recommend the elimination of these requirements from the 1942 act."

The President also proposed elimination of the provision in WPA appropriations barring aliens on the ground that their "private employment opportunities are becoming increasingly limited."

While stating that he had no objections to sections on the current relief act on political activities, the President said that he considered provisions "unnecessary," as a result of the Hatch Act ostensibly barring political activities by government officials.

### Murray Here to Address Transit Rally Tonight

#### CIO President, in Interview Pledges Full Backing of National CIO in TWU Fight for Labor Rights

(Continued from Page 1)

the present collective bargaining controversy, will also hear James A. Farley, former postmaster general, who will speak in his capacity as chairman of the Greater New York Fund with which the TWU Fund is associated since its inception.

#### CURRAN TO SPEAK

Other speakers will include Allen S. Haywood, national CIO director; Joseph Curran, national CIO vice-president and president of the Greater New York Industrial Union Council; Michael J. Quill, president of the Transport Workers Union and other officers of the union.

The Garden rally will be preceded by a parade of TWU members employed on city lines. Several Irish and Scotch pipers bands will be in the line of march.

Included in the parade will be a group of workers who have been employed continuously by the way systems for more than 20 years, some as much as 30 years.

Wives and daughters of the men will march under the banner of the Transport Workers Union Ladies Auxiliary.

#### PLEDGES FULL BACKING

In his press interview yesterday, Murray declared that "it is the considered judgment of the officers of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, that this organization, the Transport Workers Union, must continue to endure for the purpose of protecting the lives and families of the members of this organization."

In addition, the issues are so fundamental in that they embrace first the right of self-organization on the part of the workers employed in the transport industry and second they raise the right of a bona fide trade union to enjoy the munificent blessings of true constructive collective bargaining."

In a reference to anti-union legislation, Murray said: "We do not think that the people of New York City, or the nation, are ready to tolerate a law which has for its purpose the strangulation of a union."

Murray indicated that he considers the present issue confronting the union one of life and death.

"Shall the Transport Workers Union live," he asked, "or shall it

The lion's share of this loot goes to the 75,000 favored Wall Street stockholders, who, according to the recent survey of the Senate Monopoly Committee gather in most of the corporation dividends in America.

The largest gains in dividend plunder came in the monopolies now getting large "defense" contracts.

Steel companies increased dividends by 131 per cent over 1940, for example.

"Sacrifice"? Don't make Wall Street laugh. It is enormous profits which are at the bottom of the rising cost of living.

### Mayor Leaps Into 'Home Defense' Saddle

#### Holds Meeting of Dep't of Markets Employees; See Food Rations

Mayor LaGuardia leaped quickly into his new job as Director of Civilian Defense yesterday, issuing his first assignment to 214 men and women of the Department of Markets, whom he ordered to stand by as the food distribution contingent of national defense.

His order was seen as the first step toward food rationing. Flanked by Department of Markets officials, the Mayor addressed the uniformed Market employees from City Hall steps on the occasion of the presentation of a flag to the department.

The unsuspecting market inspectors stood stiffly at attention as LaGuardia, in the manner of a field marshal, gave them their first war orders.

As the Director of Civilian Defense, he shouted, his voice rising to a high pitch, "my first assignment will be food distribution in event of an emergency."

"Your department will have the duty of preparing an inventory of food, and providing the normal flow of food in the vicinity is interrupted you will supervise its distribution."

He added in terse military tones: "Further instructions will be given to you."

#### Philadelphia Browder Banquet to Hear Minor

PITTSBURGH, Pa., May 20.—Robert Minor, Acting General Secretary of the Communist Party, will be the principal speaker at a Browder Birthday banquet to be held here on Saturday evening, May 31.

The parade preceding the Garden rally will assemble at Transport Union Hall at 153 W. 64th St., and will begin the march down Broadway at 7 P. M. The marchers will enter the Garden through a special ramp.

The theme of the meeting will be: settle the controversy "the American way—through collective bargaining."

This slogan has been distributed by the union in millions of pieces of literature throughout the city.

Tickets for the rally are being distributed through both CIO and AFL unions. There will be no admission charge to the meeting, but ticket-holders will be admitted first.

A program of musical entertainment arranged by TWU members will be presented.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 8 P. M.

### Union Conventions For Coming Months

Following is a list of trade union conventions scheduled for the next three months. The list will be run every Wednesday hereafter. The Daily Worker invites its readers to tell us of any other labor conventions which will occur in this period.

#### Date 1941 Organization

May 22 Michigan Industrial Union Council

#### Place

Jackson

31 Tennessee Industrial Union Council Chattanooga, Tenn.

#### June

9 American Federation of Musicians (AFL) Seattle, Wash.

22 Switchmen's Union (AFL) Buffalo, N. Y.

10 Iowa State Federation Burlington, Ia.

13 Maine State Federation Millinocket, Me.

16 Colorado State Federation Greeley, Colo.

16 Oregon State Federation Astoria, Ore.

20 Indiana Ind. Union Council Munice, Ind.

20 Virginia Ind. Union Council Roanoke, Va.

23 American Newspaper Guild (CIO) Detroit

23 Texas State Federation El Paso, Texas

27 South Carolina State Federation Spartanburg, S. C.

30 American Flint Glass Workers Union (AFL) Washington, Pa.

30 Boot and Shoe Workers Union (AFL) Undecided

30 Int'l Federation Technical Engineers (AFL) Undecided

July

5 Nat'l Brotherhood of Operative Painters (AFL) Buffalo, N. Y.

7 National Maritime Union (CIO) Cleveland

7 Brotherhood of Loco. Firemen & Engineers Denver, Colo.

14 Washington State Federation Spokane, Wash.

15 Int'l Union, Stove Mounters (AFL) Undecided

21 Int'l Union Stereotypers & Electrotypers (AFL) Denver, Colo.

Aug.

4 Int'l Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Wkrs, CIO Buffalo, N. Y.

4 Idaho State Federation Cleveland

4 Massachusetts State Federation Nampa, Idaho

11 North Carolina State Federation Undecided

16 Vermont State Federation Charlotte, N. C.

18 Wisconsin State Federation Montpelier, Vt.

18 New York State Federation La Crosse, Wis.

19 Int'l Photo Engravers Union Syracuse, N. Y.

19 Int'l Photo Engravers Union Rochester, N. Y.

20 Detroit, Mich.

26 Montana State Federation Kalispell, Mont.

Sept.

1 Nat'l Federation, Post Office Clerks Joplin, Mo.

1 Nat'l Ass'n Letter Carriers Los Angeles, Cal.

1 Brotherhood, Painters, Decorators, etc. Columbus, Ohio

1 Nat'l Ass'n P.O. & Railway Mail Laborers Boston, Mass.

8 Int'l Union, Cement, Lime, Gypsum Wkrs. Columbus, Ohio

8 American Federation of Gov. Employees St. Paul, Minn.

8 Nebraska State Federation Hastings, Neb.

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\* Dates not definite.

### F.D.R. Names Mayor Head of 'HomeDefense'

#### Labor Observers Fear Creation of Army of Strikebreakers

(Continued from Page 1)

"home defense" activities will be used to promote war hysteria.

#### DANGER TO LABOR

There is also considerable fear in labor circles that organizations of "home defense" volunteers may well be used for strikebreaking and antiblack purposes.

Little realized generally is the fact that the administration has already taken a number of important steps toward creating a "home defense" set-up. Now the President is apparently ready to coordinate various groups which are already operating and to extend the scope of his program.

The most recent step which the administration has taken in this connection is the launching of a campaign to enlist civilian volunteers as aircraft spotters.

#### REGISTER VOLUNTEERS

State employment officers and so-called State Defense Councils have received a letter from Frank Bane, Director of the Division of State and Local Cooperation of the Office of Emergency Management, ordering the immediate registration of volunteers.

Men are being asked to serve at outside observation posts as spotters.

Both men and women will be taken for inside service at so-called filter and information centers where various reports will be sifted.

This entire organization is to be coordinated with the general headquarters and air force of the United States Army and is to be ready for operation by June 15.

Only two explanations have been offered by informed observers here to explain this new administration drive:

#### SEE ACTUAL WAR

Either the President expects to plunge the country into actual warfare on or about June 15, or else he is trying to create a war-like psychological atmosphere which will pave the way for the final plunge into armed hostilities.

These two calculations are of course related. But it appears here that the more immediate objective of the air-spotting campaign is that of intensified war propaganda—which of course ties in closely with plans for actual involvement in war.

The ban on food rationing, which has been recently launched is for the setting up of "local fire defense" presumably against incendiary bombs, under the direction of a detailed 36-page pamphlet on air raid shelters, complete with diagrams and cost estimates.

Economy seems to be the keynote of the plans which were prepared under the direction of the Chief of Engineers of the National Technological Civilian Protection Committee.

## Jobs on Decline In Firms Making Consumer Goods

Hogging of Raw Materials by Armament Production Causes Shortage in Other Industries; 'Famine' in Household Necessities Seen Soon

(This is the second of two articles on unemployment and "defense." The first appeared in the Sunday Worker.)

By George Morris

Diversion of materials for war requirements, already the cause of curtailment of production and loss of thousands of jobs in some industries, is beginning to affect the larger industries and bringing the threat of fresh mass unemployment.

This threat cannot be laughed off with the humorous stories, one sees in newspapers these days, about little discomfits shortage of materials are causing around homes.

The building materials industry and consequently the building industry, is facing the threat.

Large plants engaged in production of radios, washing machines, refrigerators and various other electrical appliances for civilian use, are either shifting to armament production or face curtailment because essential materials were curtailed.

Materials for automobile production are already being rationed for production at 40 per cent below last year.

### FULL SHUTDOWN FEARED

The aluminum utensils industry, already sharply curtailed, faces complete shutdown soon. W. L. Batt, deputy director of production for OPM, told a Senate Committee that by 1942 there will be no aluminum available for civilian use or even for "indirect" military requirements. There is already talk of house-to-house collection of old aluminum.

The beginning of shortages and possible cut or complete stoppage of production of civilian requirements in certain fields is already evident in every industry. One need only pick up the respective trade journals to see it.

Publications of big business, particularly the Wall Street Journal, give a tone of particular satisfaction to their daily reports on how the OPM's priorities program is clamping down on industry after industry. They only note the effects of the program as it relates to profits. Production is being shifted to the more profitable war orders; shortage of materials is causing sending up prices; the price of materials soon expected to be rationed is already skyrocketing.

### EFFECT ON WORKERS

It's just too bad about the workers and families that had depended for years on jobs in useful production. If they go on relief, it is because others have secured jobs on production of planes, warships, machine-guns, rifles, uniforms, and like instruments of destruction.

Here is how the United States News, sums up the prospect:

"Strong probability is that rationing will result in diverting \$6,000,000,000 to \$8,000,000,000 of goods from civilian demands to military demands in the next year. This means shortages, a scramble for available goods, some unemployment, a boom condition, with very strong pressure for price increases."

Business Week gives an example of how this "boom condition" is taking on momentum by citing figures of sale of refrigerators, washing machines and electric ranges for the first two months of this year.

### SEE PRICE RISES

Refrigerators, \$83.326 or 42.47 per cent increase over last year; electric ranges, \$2,206, a 47.43 per cent increase; and washing machines, \$55.546, a 9.29 per cent increase.

Business Week then explains that the "reason for the advance buying, is that the trade is confident of the continuing demand, fears shortage and price rises."

The sale is not normal, but, in effect, hoarding in anticipation of priorities clamping down.

The Wall St. Journal, in its special May 16 issue, rounding out "one year of national defense" promises production of 4,500 plane engines a month within a year, and 2,600 planes a month by next October. It does not require an expert or much statistical data to see how such a program will scrape up every bit of available aluminum and other vital materials.

### BUILDING WORKERS HIT

The same issue of the Wall Street Journal boasts of a rise in construction to the highest point since May, 1929. The principal stimulus is construction for war plants and housing requirements near those plants. But the Journal warns:

"Another outgrowth of the sharp increase in construction activity is the possibility of a shortage of materials for peace-time projects, especially home building. There has been no actual shortage as yet, but it is expected in the industry that there may be difficulty later in the year."

Already one hears of inability by builders to obtain construction steel from Bethlehem Steel and other firms. Those companies are too

## AFL Unions Strike Ohio Shipyard For Pay Rise

Walkout of 9 Crafts 90% Effective; Ask 12 Cent Increase

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CLEVELAND, May 20.—Nine hundred members of 9 AFL craft unions banded together last night under rank and file leadership and struck against American Shipbuilding Company in nearby Lorain after the management had refused union wage demands. Negotiations were broken off pending the Hillman-inspired shipbuilders conference.

The striking employees are members of the following unions: Machinists, Blacksmiths, Pipefitters, Painters, Boilermakers, Riveters and Welders. Although union officials claim that the strike is "unauthorized" the walkout, called at a rank and file meeting is more than 90 per cent effective.

Rank and file spokesmen said that the management refused a written agreement to make their contract retroactive until April 15.

The union also demanded a 12 cent wage increase for all crafts. While the company has over \$20,000,000 in U. S. Navy contracts they are stalling on wage demands, the workers claim, picket lines, including all nine unions, have been established in front of the yards.

**STEEL RATIONING**  
In other words, strict rationing of steel to only those industries that are essential for "defense." We may soon witness a situation in which some of the major armament and cantonment construction program will be completed, with many building trades workers unemployed, but unable to get work, because builders will not have access to steel, electrical, plumbing, roofing and such requirements.

**Urge Protests To Defeat Hobbs Bill**

Committee Asks Action Against Concentration Camp Measure

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 20.—A broad protest campaign of letters, telegrams and resolutions to defeat the Hobbs Concentration Bill, was urged today by the office of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born here.

Warning the public that the time for action against the fascist measure which would imprison non-citizens in concentration camps is now, the American Committee revealed that the bill was reported favorably to the House Judiciary Committee last weekend by a subcommittee which held public hearings on the measure two weeks ago.

Pointing out that the sub-committee had completely ignored the public sentiment which found expression in the open hearings, the American Committee emphasized that while "more than 16 million organized Americans were represented at the public hearing on H.R. 3 in opposition to this measure, only one organization" appeared to support it.

The Sub-Committee of the House Judiciary Committee has completely disregarded the expressed opposition of the organized labor and progressive movement," a statement released by the American Committee asserted.

"The Hobbs Bill can be defeated—by a flood of letters, resolutions and telegrams from the voters and organizations back home. Immediate action is essential to defeat this un-American measure, since it will probably be up for a vote in the House within the next ten days."

**Negro Musicians Fired from WPA, Picket for Jobs**

(Special to the Daily Worker)

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 20.—Six Negro musicians dropped from WPA on the 18-month clause over a month ago, and refused reassignment, today picketed the project offices, charging discrimination, and demanding return of their jobs.

They were joined on the picket-line by white workers carrying signs reading "Discrimination is a trick to divide us—let's unite for jobs for all."

The demonstration was led by the Workers Alliance.

Harold Spence, county organizer of the Workers Alliance, interviewed while marching on the picket line, said that the picketing was done "when WPA takes back these Negro workers." A conference is scheduled for tomorrow with John Lynch, WPA administrator.

**1,500 Textile Workers Strike At New Bedford**

(Special to the Daily Worker)

NEW BEDFORD, Mass., May 20.—Five hundred textile workers from the Hathaway Mill came out on strike today for wage increases and for reduction in work loads and speedup. The strike began with battery boys who demanded \$18.50 per week instead of the \$16 they are now getting paid. The strike spread to other departments.

The weavers are demanding a reduction of four looms on their work load on cotton king looms to run eight instead of twelve and to raise the minimum weekly pay from \$25 to \$30. This is the second strike in this mill since the independent textile council officials put over a no strike contract against the will of the workers.

**BUILDING WORKERS HIT**

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, May 20.—Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, and long a militant fighter for civil liberties, will be the featured speaker of a mass rally to celebrate the 30th birthday anniversary of Earl Browder Wednesday evening at Stefanie Hall, 2448 South Pulaski (Crawford) Ave.

Rudolph Martonovic, secretary of the Czechoslovak Joint Council, is also scheduled to speak on the program.

## Next Time We'll Win

### Labor Leader Tells of New Southern Unity

By Rex Brown

When Mike Ross came North last week to talk against the poll tax, he was amazed by the reception which the workers up here gave him. "You can't make me believe any more that folks up here are cold toward people from out of town," he said. "Why I felt as much at home up here as if I had been back in North Carolina."

Somewhere in North Carolina today, Mike Ross is doing his work—the work that thousands of other members of the League of Young Southerners have undertaken to free their people. There's a big job to be done down South—ten million white and Negro people must win the right to vote so that they can replace poll tax politicians like Martin Dies and Howard Smith with men and women who will speak for the wage earners and the sharecroppers; peonage must be wiped out so that the Southern people will have their own land; lynching must be stopped so that a man can join a trade union without fearing that he will be thrown into the swamps for fish bait.

Rank and file spokesmen said that the management refused a written agreement to make their contract retroactive until April 15.

The union also demanded a 12 cent wage increase for all crafts. While the company has over \$20,000,000 in U. S. Navy contracts they are stalling on wage demands, the workers claim, picket lines, including all nine unions, have been established in front of the yards.

**ACTIVE PEOPLE'S FIGHTER**  
You feel that the job is going to be done when you talk to Mike Ross—22-year-old bakery worker who got into the run-off for the Charlotte, N. C., city council a few years ago.

Mike is a slight youth, weighing not more than 120 pounds, who looks as if he hadn't finished his teens. During the day, he works in a bakery. At night and over the week-ends, he goes out to various North Carolina towns to work at his unpaid but most interesting job—that of executive secretary of the North Carolina Committee to Build a Farmer-Labor Party.

"You can see what's happened in one Southern state when the people got together and smashed the poll tax," Mike said. "The folks in North Carolina got together in 1920, bucked the Duke Tobacco Co., which controls the state, and got rid of the poll tax."

"Now, we're developing the best trade union movement in the entire South and we're building a Farmer-Labor Party which is scaring the Democratic Party out of its breeches. We are fighting to get the right to vote for our Negro



Mike Ross at his Carolina home.

brothers in the textile mills and on the big plantations. We are helping the folks in the eight Southern states still collecting the poll tax to get rid of it so that they can help us and we can help them in building a real Southern people's political movement which will be reflected in some new faces in Congress."

**WIN PRIMARY VOTE**

North Carolina Senator Bob Reynolds and the rest of the "Confederate statesmen" in Washington were scared to death recently when Mike Ross and B. A. Walker, a 49-year-old textile worker, won run-off places as People's Slates in Congress.

"You can see what's happened in one Southern state when the people got together and smashed the poll tax," Mike said. "The folks in North Carolina got together in 1920, bucked the Duke Tobacco Co., which controls the state, and got rid of the poll tax."

"Now, we're developing the best trade union movement in the entire South and we're building a Farmer-Labor Party which is scaring the Democratic Party out of its breeches. We are fighting to get the right to vote for our Negro

brothers in the textile mills and on the big plantations. We are helping the folks in the eight Southern states still collecting the poll tax to get rid of it so that they can help us and we can help them in building a real Southern people's political movement which will be reflected in some new faces in Congress."

When Charlotte workers refused to be carried away by "red-baiting," the bosses tried another trick.

They changed the system of registration so that they could not be registered as supporters of the People's Slates found that they had been disfranchised when they showed up to cast their votes.

Even in the first election before the runoff, workers who had voted 10 and 20 years at the same polling places were told that their names were not to be found on the voting lists.

"But the campaign was not a loss," Mike said. "The workers of Charlotte showed that the Southern people are beginning to wake up and take notice. During the campaign, we organized the Bakery Workers Union and workers there'll be no more misery."

became conscious that they had to fight against war on the political fields as well as grumble about war and Roosevelt's war policies in their homes.

"Next time, we will win. Next time, there will be Farmer-Labor Party slates all over the South backing people's candidates. Already in the South, we have such third party movements as the Tennessee Commonwealth Federation and the Houston, Tex., Committee to Build a Farmer-Labor Party.

"The last Negro Congressman from North Carolina, George H. White, said in 1901 after he had been knocked out by the poll tax which disfranchised the Negroes and poor whites that 'my suffering and bleeding people will rise up and come again.' Brother, we are rising and we'll keep on coming from every part of the South until

morning toward training Negro bus drivers ends the first chapter of a long and militant fight by the United Negro Bus Strike Committee and its supporters, assisted and encouraged by the Transport Workers Union. The Committee was made up of the National Negro Congress, whose spokesman was Hope Stevens, President of the Manhattan Council; the Harlem Labor Union, represented by Roger Straughn, and the Greater New York Coordinating Committee for Employment, represented by Arnold P. Johnson, Dr. Cecil C. Oliviere, and the Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr.

An earlier offer of the company providing for less than half of the workers' demands was rejected with an implied strike threat.

The contract is the best obtained by the United Rubber Workers and is regarded as a departure from the policies of the top leaders of the union who have shown a willingness to accept wage increases of only two or three cents an hour.

It was announced today that a drive will be made now for a nationwide contract covering seven plants of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. The announcement was made following a weekend conference of representatives from all the plants. The Goodyear Co. is known as the "Ford of the rubber industry."

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## Furniture Parley Raps Rise in Living Costs

CIO Delegates Call for Independent Political Action, Back Bridges

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, May 20.—A smashing condemnation of war-boosted living costs was made today by the Second Biennial Convention of the GIO United Furniture Workers Union, meeting here at the Morrison Hotel.

The convention also prepared to take a strong stand for labor's independent political action, depending on neither of the old political parties and stimulating the movement for another party. However, final action on this resolution was withheld for minor revisions which would make the sense of the resolution clearly national in scope.

Highlighting today's session was a report of the delegates of Local 299 of Austell, Georgia, which has been conducting a six-week strike at the Austell Cabinet Co., with 110 workers on strike in a town of 500 people. The strikers have been carrying on a winning fight against an employer who is openly known as a

## Daily Worker

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1941

### Substantial Gains for The Anthracite Miners

In winning a 10 per cent increase and paid vacations for the first time, the 91,000 miners in the anthracite fields have made substantial gains.

Now that a settlement has been reached in hard coal, the job before the United Mine Workers, and in fact before the entire labor movement, is to complete the fight to bring to terms the Southern operators who for 40 years have starved their workers and on occasion had them murdered in cold blood.

In view of their militancy and unity and with the support of the rest of labor, the miners can be counted on to wipe out the Southern differential and thereby smash one of the main props of feudalism and reaction in the South.

### Preparing for a Fight Now' Talk

The Wall Street Journal stated several days ago:

"Roosevelt's next speech will key up the 'fight now' talk. He gradually shifts from his 'no foreign war' of last October to the 'fighting and dying' now being talked by Mrs. Roosevelt, Wallace, Stimson, et al. NEXT SPEECH WILL BE HIS BIGGEST STEP YET." (Our emphasis—Editor.)

Here lies the explanation for the barrage of war-inciting speeches to which the American people were subjected over the weekend by Secretaries Hull and Stimson, Senator Pepper and OPM Director Knudsen. All these addresses, with their bulldozing tone toward the people and their violent threats to Wall Street's rivals abroad, were calculated to "soften up" the public in preparation for the President's forthcoming "fight now" talk.

The American people are just as opposed as ever to participation in the war. The Administration is determined to break down this opposition and, if possible, to override it.

Administration officials, the press and the radio—all are concentrating on the next speech of the President's. Labor and the people should concentrate on it too. Let them make it known now that they will countenance no new step toward outright belligerency and that, on the contrary, they want the government to get out of the war even more quickly than it sneaked in.

### Another False Rumor About China

It would appear that the New York Times' correspondent in China, Mr. Hallett Abend, has been caught once again in a newspaper hoax. It will be recalled that this gentleman recently supplied his paper with "authentic" maps purporting to smear the Soviet Union, but which on examination turned out to be rather crude fakes. Mr. Abend on Sunday emerged with a new anti-Soviet rumor which collapsed as soon as it was launched.

On page one of the Times, Mr. Abend insinuates that the Japanese Government was "aiding" the Chinese Communists, and this suddenly appearing "aid" was a result of the neutrality pact between the Soviet Union and Japan.

Mr. Abend produces as the evidence for this purely fictitious report the fact that the Soviet Union has opened a shipping route from Vladivostok to Shanghai, and that Chinese troops have appeared in the northeastern provinces of China. The first fact is merely the routine expression of peaceful relations between the Soviet Union, Japan and China, and the second is a result of the fact that the Chinese Communists have succeeded, in cooperation with the Chungking forces, in battling their way into the Japanese-controlled provinces. The Monday issue of the Times itself confirms this as follows: "Troops of the Communist Eighth Route Army are taking action in support of the Central Government forces against the Japanese in Shansi province, General Chiu En-lai, Communist representative in Chungking, told the press today."

It is the joint victory of the Communist and Chungking armies against the Japanese in Shansi which perturbs Mr. Abend and causes him to launch divisive rumors manufactured out of the whole cloth. Mr. Abend's aim is obviously to hurt the anti-Japanese fight, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, to provide an alibi for the torrent of aid to Japan which the U. S. State Department is making available in the form of renewed oil contracts. While the Chinese Communists battle the Japanese invaders, Secretary Hull provides them with vital war supplies.

### Behind the Dismissal Of Dr. Yergan

As 12 more teachers are dismissed unjustly from City College on red-baiting inventions, the real meaning of this entire reactionary campaign comes to light again in the forthright statement issued a few days ago by Dr. Max Yergan, noted Negro leader and scholar.

The institution also failed to reappoint Dr. Yergan, on the insulting pretext that "different personalities" were needed. But this subterfuge was a vain attempt to make the public think that the Negro people do not have common cause with the Teachers Union in defending the schools against the Rapo-Coudert Committee. Dr. Yergan's dismissal is due to the witch-hunting atmosphere created by this committee.

Involved in his case, Dr. Yergan's statement pointed out, is the "freedom of teachers to work for democracy in college and community." This, indeed is the "crime" of Dr. Yergan, who is president of the National Negro Congress which helped to achieve the historic job victory for Negroes on the New York buses. In identifying himself with labor and with the anti-war sentiments of the majority of the American people, Dr. Yergan has stood shoulder to shoulder with the organized teachers for better schools, free trade unionism and high academic standards.

Dr. Yergan's dismissal throws light on the special discrimination visited upon the entire Negro people by the Board of Higher Education. He asks, in his statement, "Are Negroes to be permanently appointed, with tenure, to teaching positions in the city-supported colleges of New York?" Out of four such institutions, not one Negro holds such a position—and Dr. Yergan is dismissed.

Coudert's drive is not only against the schools and the teachers' unions, it is distinctly anti-Negro. Parents, labor and the Negro people have common interests in defeating it.

### Another Sleeping Pill

The editor of "PM" probably said to himself Monday "This High Cost of Living is getting too hot to ignore. We've got to handle it. But how?"

Monday's "PM" is another specimen of the Ralph Ingersoll technique in befuddling the average man while maintaining the appearance of complete candor.

Mr. Ingersoll's statisticians fling a handful of statistics at the housewives of the city, and try to prove to them that "it isn't so bad yet."

Next after this, the idea is slyly injected that "it's all because of the war or something." Vague references follow on "buying for Britain." Then appears a photo of wooden shoes on which the "Germans get along for Fascism's sake," thus combining a slander against the German people with a hint that we Americans ought to be happy to accept high food prices "for democracy's sake."

And then, the final sleeping pill—"Washington Intends to Do Something About It." Go to sleep. Don't organize.

Wait for the Administration to "do something." Such is "PM's" message. But the price increases are a direct result of the Administration's policy of curbing consumer's buying power to produce armaments. The Administration's spokesmen publicly demand a curtailing of consumption; they all preach "sacrifice" from the housewives. (But they don't preach it to Wall Street or the Steel Companies whose profits are soaring.)

"PM" is afraid to tell its readers that the price rises are a direct result of the philosophy of the "defense" program which is to raise profits through armaments and reduce food consumption. "PM" is afraid to tell its readers that it is a "guns not butter" program exactly like Goering's, and that if the people wait for Washington's war-crazy statisticians they'll starve to death. The people need to act themselves in determined, united opposition to the shameless profiteering in food.

### Hitler Did It—with Washington's Assistance

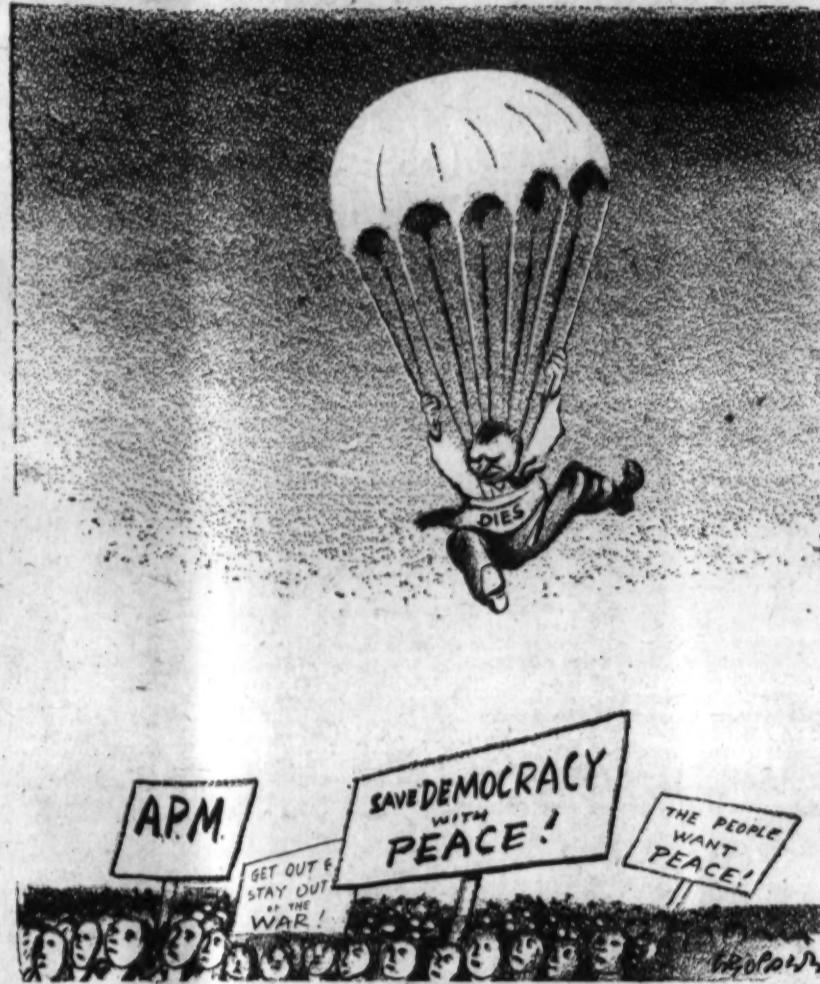
The Marquis de Aguiar, titled foreign agent of Spanish reaction in this country, has declared that Spain is controlled by Hitler. The newspapers played it up on the front page yesterday as if it were something new.

No one knows better than the Roosevelt Administration and the capitalist publishers that Hitler and Mussolini have enslaved the Spanish people through Franco.

For it was British, American and French imperialism which made this possible. When the Spanish people were valiantly defending their democracy and independence, the British government, using the non-intervention pact put forward by the Social Democrat Leon Blum, aided the fascist invaders. The French government shared in the conspiracy, and President Roosevelt participated by flatly refusing to lift the embargo on Republican Spain.

The defeat of Spanish democracy led to the present imperialist war. The fact that both imperialist camps of today engineered this defeat shows that the people can place faith in neither side to retrieve Spanish, or any other, democracy. That can be done only by the Spanish people, against both imperialist belligerents, and with the assistance of democratic peoples all over the world.

### PARACHUTE ATTACK



### THE RAIL WORKERS WILL HAVE TO ASSERT THEMSELVES TO WIN

The 30 per cent wage increase that has been put forward by the railroad brotherhoods representing 350,000 operating workers, is sorely needed.

Railroad wages are far behind the scales for corresponding work in other industries. This situation is accentuated still more by the fact that the operating workers, for example, as a result of speed-up and labor-saving machinery, now do 43 per cent more work than four years ago and for the same pay. Unemployment is rife in the industry with approximately a million workers laid off in the last 20 years. Meanwhile, profits are rising steadily; last year they doubled the 1939 figure while this year, through the war program, they promise to be still higher.

The operating trainmen, however, constitute little more than a third of the total number of organized workers in the industry. It is utterly folly for the operating workers and the shop craftsmen to be divided. They should learn from the successful experiences of the CIO of the necessity of unity. All railroad workers should present their demands together and force their acceptance together.

The delay which has already taken place and which threatens to consume still more time, is costing the railroad workers heavily. It is estimated that the proposed wage increase would bring the operating workers—

who compose about a third of the industry—an additional \$168,000,000 a year. Considering that wage demands should have been presented at least three months ago, when other important sections of organized labor were swinging into action, it can be said that these 90 days of delay have cost all the workers in the entire industry a minimum of \$100,000,000. Meanwhile the cost of living has been rising. These facts are cited as showing the need for still more pressure by the rank and file on their union officials to exert speed in this situation.

Additional light on this inexcusable and costly policy of delay, is to be found in the fact that for the past eight months the shop craft unions have been inching along through the mazes of the Railroad Labor Act with a demand for paid vacations. What these workers still have not won in eight months, the miners, under the militant leadership of John L. Lewis, won in a few weeks.

Pressure on the union officials is all the more necessary in view of their practice in years gone by of presenting demands that were fully justified, then dragging out the negotiations for month after month and finally "compromising" on some small gains that were all out of proportion to the needs of the workers.

The railroad workers will do well to assert themselves if they are to win a prompt and just settlement of their demands.

### Letters From Our Readers

#### Fight Against Poll Tax, Wage Differential In South Stirs Wrath of Social Democrats

North Carolina.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Not content with his red-baiting on that septic tank of American journalism, The New Leader, Victor Reisel, sewer artist extraordinary, has turned to Negro-baiting.

In his peep column of May 7, Reisel makes a remark that would warm the heart of a Bilbo, Talmadge, Hobbs or Goebels. He remarks that a certain left-wing paper in Alabama is stirring up the Negroes...

The diatribe was aimed against the only bright spot in Southern journalism, "The Southern News Almanac." For its fight against the poll tax and wage differential, it has incurred the wrath of the Social Democrats. Thus Reisel joins hands with the Bilbos and Talmadges, which only goes to show how close Southern bourgeois and social democrats really are.

We in the South are learning that the only truly socialist spell the name of the Party COMMUNIST.

E. H.

#### Conversation—1919 Must It Be Repeated!

Little Rock, Ark.

Editor, Daily Worker:

I had an honorable discharge in my pocket, and a railroad ticket for home—Mena, Arkansas. This was in January, 1919.

On the train, I sat down by a soldier in uniform.

"Going home?" I asked, to start a conversation.

"No," he answered, "I go for a little ride. I return to hospital tonight." His tongue did not work well, and he could not talk plain. "Nursie let me go for a little while," he added.

He was one of a lot of wounded soldiers who had been returned from France. He had been gassed, and part of his hip had been torn away with shrapnel.

"I use to play baseball," he said.

"I glad you go home." There was a faraway look in his eyes. "It is nice to go home."

I asked him if he was treated well at the hospital.

"Yes. Nursie is sweet to all of us. But I wish she wouldn't cry. This morning she cried after helping a blind soldier whose arms had been taken off. She smiled and tried to be cheerful but I could tell she was crying. We are treated all right, but it would be nice to go home. I glad you go home."

He smiled and patted my hand.

"Do you find war very glorious?" I asked. His lips trembled, and he turned his face away from me and locked out the window.

I asked more questions, but he would not answer.

A. W.

#### Questions Which Demand Explanation

New York, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Readers of the Daily Worker never had any illusions about France and its present rulers. They knew that France was betrayed to Hitler by the 200 families and their stooges in high office—the Blums, Daladiers, Bonnets and Petains. They knew that the superannuated Marshal Pétain and General Weygand were out and out Nazi agents. And though for a time they appeared to be haggling with Hitler, Pétain's fascist leanings were never mistaken by those who wanted to know the truth.

Of course, William Bullitt knew the truth. He was there, helped engineer the betrayal, in fact he appointed himself police chief, fire chief and mayor of Paris and held the city for several days to make sure the betrayal was a success. But when he returned to the United States he told his superiors in the State Department and even the President himself that France was still and remained a democratic nation. The Administration in Washington recognized the Vichy government by exchanging ambassadors.

Now that the Vichy government has come out in the open as part and parcel of Hitler's Nazi regime by extending full collaboration to Hitler, what about Bullitt? Has he deliberately lied to the State Department and to the President? Has he deliberately concealed and misrepresented the facts of which he had personal knowledge in order to mislead the United States Government? These are questions which demand an explanation.

A READER.

### Syrian People May Upset British, Nazi Plans, Says Moscow

(Wireless to Intercontinental News)

MOSCOW, May 20.—French-ruled Syria has now become the focus of the war in the Near East, and one of the most important centers of the conflict as a whole, according to editorial analyses in "Red Star" and "Red Fleet," organs, respectively, of the Soviet Army and the Soviet Navy.

"Red Star" calls special attention to the internal political situation, pointing out that the Syrian people have for years sought independence, having recently compelled substantial concessions from the fascist regime of Marshall Henri Philippe Pétain, and hinting that the mass people's movement developing in Syria may upset the applecart of both Britain and Germany.

"Red Fleet" dwells on the strategic military and commercial importance of Syria, "heart of the Moslem world," and sums up briefly the great value of the prize the imperialist contenders are seeking to grab.

#### RED STAR'S ANALYSIS

"Red Star's" analysis is in part as follows:

"Due to a sharpening of the general situation in the Near East caused by the armed conflict between Britain and Iraq, the struggle for a Syrian place d'armes has intensified. Since France has a mandate over Syria, the Syrian problem directly affects relations between France and the Axis powers on the one side and France and Britain on the other. Turkey also, which has common frontiers with Syria and Iraq, formerly part of the Ottoman Empire, is interested in the fate of Syria. Thus, the question of Syria in the present situation is becoming one of the most complicated problems of international politics."

"According to the conditions of the armistice, France had to demobilize her Near Eastern Army formed by General Weygand in Syria. Soon, however, with the change in the military situation in the Mediterranean, the demobilization and disarming of the Syrian army was interrupted and the French authorities, with Germany's permission, maintained considerable military and air forces. In addition to the task of strengthening the defense of the Syrian frontier in the new conditions, the French administration was likewise confronted with the task of consolidating the internal position of the country. The weakening of France's general position as a result of her defeat served to stimulate further the struggle of the Syrian nationalists for the independence of their country. According to the agreement concluded between the French government and Syria on Sept. 9, 1936, France pledged to grant Syria her independence and her freedom from mandate three years after the signing of the agreement.

#### FAILED TO KEEP PROMISE

"But France did not keep her promise. In 1939 General Weygand started to form his Near Eastern Army in Syria, with the support of which the French administration actually restored the occupation regime existing in Syria during the first years of French domination. But it proved to be beyond the power of the Vichy government to preserve this regime in the present situation. The French administration deemed it advisable to admit within certain limits representatives of the national bourgeoisie into the administrative organs of the country without introducing any fundamental changes in the mandate system of government in Syria. The new supreme commissary to Syria, General Henri Dentz, appointed in December, 1940, took—not without hesitation—the path of collaboration with the nationalist groups.

# CONSTANT READER



**Mr. Louis Fischer Met All  
The 'Idealists' of His Day,  
Including Winston Churchill**

By SENDER GARLIN

**R**EADING Louis Fischer's autobiographical tract, some naive persons might get the impression that the author ran the Spanish war, told various European statesmen what ails them and the world, and generally acted as Envoy Plenipotentiary to the World-at-Large.

Mr. Fischer's "Men and Politics" is, in fact, one of the most fatuously conceited books ever gotten up. It is a typical product of a journalist who considers the world only a backdrop for his own "colorful" activities. After Munich "people like Edgar Mowrer and myself who had grown attached to Europe from years of life with it got together and simply mourned," Fischer writes on page 577, toward the fag-end of his book. "We said it was no use staying abroad any longer.... Europe had provided Fischer with a lucrative living for nearly two decades. He clung to Europe like a barnacle to a ship. No wonder he had 'grown attached' to the place!"

There are 672 pages in Mr. Fischer's inflated manuscript. Much of it is a rewrite of his dispatches in *The Nation* and other periodicals during recent years. The rest is a mélange of reminiscences of celebrities, of gossip gleaned from the diplomatic and journalistic underworld, and warmed-over slops from the Trotskyite garbage cans. A reviewer in "Time" magazine observes that Fischer's book is the "Out of the Night" of the intelligentsia.

Mr. Fischer describes his book as an "autobiography" but there is very little personal detail about his own life. The clearer he emphasizes his meteoric rise in the bourgeois world, Mr. Fischer records the fact that he was born above a delicatessen store in the fish and chicken market at Fourth and Monroe Street in Philadelphia. He studied for the rabbinate at Drexel College in that city, but, for one reason or another he does not mention this fact.

Mr. Fischer's humble beginnings in the City of Brotherly Love are presented for the purpose of throwing into sharp relief the important "contacts" that he made in subsequent years. The book reeks with sycophany. So-and-So was born in "fashionable Rittenhouse Square." Count Brockdorff-Rantzau, one-time German ambassador to Moscow "descended from an old Prussian noble line." He (Rantzau) "recalled from fleshly, smelly, earthy Moscow and the heavy tongues, heavy boots and heavy manners of average Bolsheviks."

Whereas nobility—dead or alive—intrigued him in Europe, the grand bourgeoisie always delighted him in America. "I met Lindbergh again," he writes, "several years later at the estate of Thomas Lamont, Morgan partner."

For nearly 15 years Mr. Fischer wandered in and out of the Soviet Union, writing fugitive pieces for *The Nation*. In Moscow he established himself as the self-styled "ambassador" of the liberal intelligentsia of the United States whom he now reviles in his book. Writing about the visitors to the USSR, he says elegantly that "they included intellectual slummers and dissatisfied women." Failure to amplify this latter obscenity, no doubt, is what prompted another summer soldier, Malcolm Cowley, to complain that Fischer's book is lacking in a "love" motif.

Others of his colleagues—Vincent Sheean, G. E. R. Gedye and Jan Valtin—have already cashed in on their "disillusionment" at the usual royalties. Hence Mr. Fischer's commodity has arrived on a somewhat glutted market. He seeks to compensate for this handicap by providing one more of those "original explanations" of the Moscow Trials.

Mr. Fischer was not present at a single one of the three important trials. Yet he dismisses or ignores the testimony of such dyed-in-the-wool Bolsheviks as the millionaire ex-ambassador to the USSR, Joseph E. Davies, and numerous capitalist press correspondents who were in attendance at the trials. In fact—discussing the trial with Fischer on one occasion—Mr. Davies, according to Fischer himself—found the latter's views of the trials "too unsympathetic."

Mr. Fischer turnsclairvoyant on the Moscow Trials and comes forward with the "theory"—since he must have an original "theory"—that the defendants confessed because the only other alternative would have been summary execution. But Davies, a trained lawyer and frankly anti-Communist, could not evade the implications of the evidence as it unfolded before him in the Moscow courtroom.

Known well what is expected of him in the present anti-Soviet book market, Fischer's "explanations" of the Trials sound stupid and malicious—particularly since post-Munich events have fully confirmed the timeliness of the Soviet Union's expose of these traitors.

Nothing reveals Mr. Fischer's arrogance more than his reference to the outbreak of the civil war in Spain in 1936. "I was happy," he writes, "that a situation had arisen which took me away from Russia." Bless Franco, Hitler and Mussolini! for launching their bloody attack upon the Spanish people! But for their prompt action more than 1,000,000 Spanish men, women and children now dead would be alive, but Mr. Fischer would, alas, not have had his "free lance" assignment in Spain...

Retrospectively, Fischer now hurls imprecations at the Soviet Union, but in discussing the war in Spain he is impelled to acknowledge that if the Russians had not brought in their first airplanes, tanks, and military advisers that month, the war in Spain would have ended in 1936 with a Fascist triumph, and then perhaps Czechoslovakia would have fallen earlier and the second World War would have started earlier.

Fischer demonstrates his love for Spain by embracing the government now supporting the bloody Franco and directs his hatred against the only country that helped Republican Spain—the Soviet Union. These and similar facts are no doubt the reason why there is a curious omission from Fischer's book of Soviet diplomatic moves during the spring and summer of 1939. For a discussion of that period would disclose the British double-dealing in its negotiations with the USSR and throw into a cocked hat the Nazi-Soviet "alliance" theory which is part of Fischer's ideological arsenal.

In Spain Fischer concluded it would be high adventure to enroll in the International Brigades. He worked in the quartermasters' corps for two or three weeks until he proved to his superior officers that he was more adept in the art of intrigue than in fitting up the men with uniforms. When his services were unceremoniously terminated, Mr. Fischer took to running the Spanish war. "Heads of states are often insufficiently informed," he writes with staggering modesty.

His Spanish adventure over, Mr. Fischer reports that he "scampered about America delivering lectures" at the usual rates, meanwhile organizing the notes on his various "disillusions."

Mr. Fischer was not without "ideals" for long, however. For the Second Imperialist War broke out, and this gave our restless free-lance another—and more noble—assignment. He had discovered, meanwhile, that Winston Churchill was a "fervid devotee of freedom"; that the imperialist conflict in Europe "is a war for the rebuilding of the life of Europe, and then of the entire world, on a new foundation." Skeptical? Mr. Fischer quotes the Father of the Appeasers in support of his discovery. "Even Neville-Chamberlain, before his death," he recalls, "spoke of the necessity of a new international order."

Mr. Fischer calls William Bullitt an appeaser, which undoubtedly he is. But he gives wholehearted support to Roosevelt and his war administration of which Bullitt is an organic part and for which he is one of the most articulate of spokesmen.

The British Foreign Office will like Mr. Fischer's book. So will Alexander Kerenky, who was recently wheeled out and dusted off to praise Jan Valtin's "Out of the Sewer."

In a full-page ad in the *Herald Tribune* on Sunday the publishers of "Men and Politics" predict that the Communists will call Louis Fischer "a traitor" and "a turn-coat."

Hardly. One cannot be a traitor to a cause to which one never even remotely belonged. Nor can he now be described as a "turn-coat." Fischer, like Johnson of Biblical fame, wears the coat of many colors.

# U. S. Visa Is Denied Great Cuban Negro Poet

Nicholas Guillen, Cuban Negro poet, has just been refused a visa by the American consulate in Havana, it was announced yesterday by the League of American Writers. Guillen was invited to represent Cuban writers at the Fourth American Writers Congress.

Writing to the League of American Writers and to Richard Wright, author of "Native Son," Guillen said, "It seems to me that our colleagues up there, and particularly the American people, ought to be made aware of this occurrence which is truly lamentable and wholly without reason."

The newspaper HOY de Havana on May 15 ran the following story on the refusal of the American Consulate to grant a visa to Guillen:

"On June 6, 7, and 8, there will take place in New York the Fourth Congress of American Writers for the defense of culture, called by the League of American Writers."

"This meeting has a special significance at this time when humanity is going through one of the most critical periods of its history. That is why the American writers seek to meet in a great congress to consider and resolve the grave problems which the present world crisis presents to thinking, sensitive men."

"In its Call to the writers of the American Union, the League declared that our continent ought to be defended, not involved in the war, not subjected to dictatorship, nor to enslavement by dictators, nor to enslavement by tactics of imperialist expansion. 'Our lives and our work' declared the manifesto of the League, 'as craftsmen and as human beings are at stake.'

"It is, then, a Congress of democratic writers, vitally interested in the struggle for culture, which places itself at the service of the people, to protect them against the grave dangers which the present war has created."

"To this Congress, whose extraordinary significance has been explained, the poet Nicolas Guillen was expressly invited to speak for the people of Cuba before his colleagues meeting in New York."

"Contrary to all hope, the Consulate of the United States in Havana decided that Guillen could not go to the United States, and refused to grant him a visa, a fact which will prevent Guillen from

participating in the deliberations of the Congress in the name of his people."

"The decision of the American consulate is a strangely arbitrary one and reveals once more the false spirit of the deceptive democracy of the big business magnates who dominate America."

"While writers who are openly in the service of fascism receive free access to the United States, others who, like Nicholas Guillen—anti-fascist and anti-imperialist—have placed their art at the service of the people, find themselves prevented from entering the United States even when it is a question of exercising a professional function and when he has been expressly invited by an organization of such prestige as the League of American Writers."

"Today, Guillen wrote to the League, protesting against the anti-democratic action in order that the American writers learn of this case and denounce it to their people."

Nicholas Guillen is one of the great poets of the Negro race, and, in the judgment of responsible critics, one of the great poets of the modern world. He was born in Camaguey, Cuba, thirty-five years ago, and has been in turn reporter, typographer and state functionary. "At present," as one bibliographer puts it, "he is only a poet, a great poet." His first volume, "Songoro-Cosongo," was published in 1930. His "West Indies" appeared in 1934, and his "Cantos Para Soldados y Sons Para Turistas" ("Songs for Soldiers and Songs for Tourists") in 1937. This last work is distinctly democratic and anti-imperialist in character.

Guillen has run through many "manners" and, like Picasso, has displayed an equal virtuosity in them all. It is significant that in the "Antología de Poesía Negra Hispano-Americanica" ("Anthology of Spanish-American Negro Poetry") edited by another distinguished Cuban poet, Emilio Balaguer, and published in 1935 in Madrid, Guillen is the one poet who appears in all eight sections.

His work has been praised by leading Spanish writers, from Unamuno down, and Juan Marinello, in his "Literatura Hispanoamericana" devotes an entire chapter to the "Exploits and Triumph of Nicholas Guillen." Langston Hughes, to whom some of Guillen's pieces are dedicated, is among his admirers.

## Local 65 Captures Drama Contest Prize

Local 65, United Wholesale and Warehouse Workers, CIO, that joyous and gay young union of militant and progressive workers, romped off with the fifth trade union drama tournament prize offered by the New Theatre League on Sunday evening. A great crowd packed Furriers Hall to witness the tournament and to hear till far past midnight to hear of Local 65's victory.

And it was a well deserved award. For Local 65 had to defeat the talented theatre group of the UOPWA, who presented their one-act play, "Hold That Line," which is reviewed today in these columns. In my humble opinion, both deserved first prize—there should have been a tie. For they competed in totally different mediums, and both hit high spots in non-professional dramatics.

Local 65's offering was a tabloid review, "Sing While You Fight." With the slimnest connecting link—a comedy situation in which a boss tries to hire his nephew and the union gets after him—it proceeded to tell in song, dance and skit what the union is all about, its welfare, compensation, health, recreational and other activities, as well as the manner in which it organizes the unorganized and protects the gains of its members. Now this, on the surface, might seem pretty dry stuff for a review. But not for Local 65. For with vim, talent and jive, these boys and girls bring real entertainment to their audience, entertainment of a type seldom seen on any stage.

The cafeteria boys and girls also suffered because much of their material—although not all—was typical Broadway revue satire, of movies, of society, and of subjects not close to the experiences of the workers. The cast, however, did a fine job.

R. W.

## Verdi's 'Falstaff' Heard Over WNYC at 2:05 P.M.

Tchaikovsky Cycle heard on the Masterwork Hour over WNYC at 9 A.M. and 7 P.M. . . . Verdi's "Falstaff" heard on the Opera Matinee, WNYC at 2:05 . . . Beethoven's "Eroica" Symphony over WQXR at 8 P.M. . . . Fred Allen featured on WABC at 9 P.M. . . . Echoes of New York over WJZ at 8 P.M.

It lack that quality which won first prize for the warehouse workers, and second award for the office workers.

Cafeteria Workers of Local 302, AFL, closed the program under some difficulties, and failed to finish in the first three. The late hour had something to do with the apparent slowness of their little revue, "We Beg to Differ."

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## The Pinch Hitter

- NYU Students Go to the People
- And Find They Oppose Jim Crow

By Bill Newton

When NYU opens its 1941 summer session soon, almost all of the seven undergraduates suspended for fighting Jim Crow in sports plan to take up their studies where Chancellor Chase and Dean McConn decreed they should stop several months ago. That is . . . unless NYU's Jim Crow administrators find new pretexts for discrimination in their determined battle to undermine the United States Constitution. When they suspended the students for the duration of the semester, NYU's administrators violated, among other things, the Constitutional right of petition (technically, the students were suspended for circulating a petition without university approval) so it won't be surprising if they drag out some other tricks—and attempt to bar the students from re-entering.

Whether or not they do, NYU youths aren't going to be fooled—and they're not backing down. In the hottest part of the fight, just after the suspensions, the criticism might have been made of the students that they depended too much on "legalistic" maneuvers. They didn't, or perhaps couldn't, smash university discrimination by rallying mass action. But they kept going, changing their tactics, profiting by their mistakes. And they're getting results.

Robert Schoenfeld, one of the suspended campus leaders, was telling this writer yesterday of the campaign recently waged by the students in a "test" neighborhood—the East Side. Schoenfeld was the president of the Washington Square Young Communist League. NYU had to suspend him along with the others—sorority girl, student council representative member of the American Student Union, Negro leader—because the YCL was playing its part in the student united front against un-Constitutional discrimination.

An earnest young man, anything but disheartened by his expulsion, Schoenfeld was enthusiastic about the newly-formed—take a deep breath—East Side Committee to Defend NYU Students Suspended for Fighting Discrimination. That's a long name for any committee—but such a neighborhood group is new and different, and the name adequately covers its work.

### Right to the People

The committee was sponsored by the East Side Youth Congress and co-operating organizations. Its members went right to the people: the shopkeepers, factory workers, unemployed, housewives. Not college graduates. Not well-to-do. But maybe for that very reason deeply interested in civil liberties, in democratic education. And the petitions and resolutions began to flow in to Chancellor Chase—he who had the gall to recently sign a pro-war statement "against" discrimination in war industries.

More than 1,000 people heard speeches by the suspended students. At least five neighborhood organizations sent resolutions to Chase—the Federation of East Side Social Clubs, the East Side Youth Congress, the Ukrainian-American Youth Club, the Henry Street Settlement House, the Madison House Settlement. Seward Park High School students conducted two meetings on the question. Open air rallies all over the East Side brought the Jim Crow fight to the neighborhood.

What did the people's response show?

"Concretely, that we can rally the New York community against Jim Crow in college and sports," said Schoenfeld. "The people in the East Side rallied quite well that the reactionary NYU policy is a threat to the civil liberties and peace of all."

About 40 members of the East Side Youth Congress attended the NYU Peace Strike, which called for an end to Jim Crow and reinstatement of the seven.

"A disgrace to our community, particularly in this war crisis," is what members of the Henry Street Settlement had to say of discrimination at Washington Square.

### Alumni Plan to Picket

The people are backing up NYU students. The alumni are awakening—they're planning a picket line at Ohio Field, Graduation Day, June 11. The Alumni Committee to Defend Academic Freedom is gaining new supporters. And the fight goes on—and will spread to other New York neighborhoods, to other schools.

The two suspended students who carried their case to court the other day lost it. The judge decided that the semester was too far advanced for him to rule on their request for immediate reinstatement. But they'll be back in school this summer. And so will the others. For New York University is finding that people—all over the country, to say nothing of New York City—oppose its outrageous policies. With every new flagrant act, the NYU administration has merely isolated itself still further. Jim Crow at NYU is going to disappear—soon.

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# YANKS WIN; DODGERS, GIANTS LOSE

## Browns Kick Away Wierd Game, 10-9

### Make 6 Errors at Stadium —Dickey Connects, Clift Hits 2

The Yankees got back into the winning column yesterday at the Stadium, but it took six errors on the part of a crippled St. Louis Browns to help them along to the 10-9 victory, won in the ninth inning before a meager gathering of 5,628.

The game was also marked by Bill Dickey's second home run blast into the right field seats in two days, an encouraging sign for the coming back catcher, and by a pair of circuit clouts by Harland Clift, Brown third sacker, and one by Roy Cullenbine.

The Browns made four double plays, but should have made no less than seven, the transplanted Lucadello and Cullenbine, playing short and first respectively, sining on three potential first to second to first twin killings.

Opening the ninth with the score tied at 9-9, Johnny Sturm, who made three hits, singled to center. Rolfe bounced to Cullenbine, who forced Sturm at second but Lucadello threw the ball into the stands, Red going to second. Heinrich walked. DiMaggio then dropped a short one into center field on which Judnick sprained his ankle, but got a force at third. The injured McQuinn came back into the game at first as Cullenbine shifted to center field and that probably cost the Browns the winning run. Keller topped the ball to relief pitcher Caster, whose wide throw pulled McQuinn off the base. Tommy Henrich rounded third and kept right on for the plate as McQuinn, taken by surprise, held the ball until it was too late to nail him.

Red Ruffing was shelled off the hill again. Cullenbine and Clift opened on him with successive home runs in the second, the right-handed third sacker driving his into the right field stands. The lead sawed as both teams played sloppily afied. Clift's second homer, following Cullenbine's third hit in the sixth tied the score at 5-5 after the Yanks had gone ahead with Heinrich and Sturm doing the damage hitting.

A walk, hit by Dickey and double play brought one over for the Yanks in the sixth, but the Browns biffed Murphy for three in the seventh, with Judnick clouting a mammoth triple. Back came the Yanks on the wings of Dickey's three run homer in the eighth following DiMaggio's hit and Keller's walk to make it 9-8. The Browns tied it again in the top of the ninth as Lucadello, Grace and Cullenbine singled. Grace being blocked off second by Crossett on Henrich's throw-in to end the inning.

Then came the hectic Yankee ninth. Some game.

The revised Tigers come in for a two-game series starting today. Atley Donald will face Schoolboy Rowe.

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Featuring Prominent Theatre Personalities

### Coming

THE BALLADS of the American Revolution and the War of 1812, in records, with an introductory lecture by Francis Franklin, Workers School, Friday, May 25 8:30 P.M. 50 E. 13th St. Admin. 50c.

PAUL ROBESON, guest judge at 3rd Annual Harry Melton Theatre Festival-Applause, New York Drama Council TWO Tickets and ad. May 24, 8:30 P.M. Finish Auditorium, 15 W. 12th St.

Baltimore, Md.

BROWDER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION, Wednesday, May 21, 8 P.M. Old Fellow's Hall, Lanvale & Calhoun Sts. Ben Davis, Jr., Mac Weiss.

WHAT GOES ON?? IT'S GAME TIME AND THERE'S NO MARMADUKE!

ALL I KNOW IS THAT HE WENT TO THE AIRPORT SAYING: "I'M GOING TO SHOW THE FANS HOW TO REALLY CELEBRATE I-AM-AN-AMERICAN DAY!"

THERE IS!

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